



## **King County**

### **Department of Community and Human Services**

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### **Regional Human Services and Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Joint Board Meeting Summary July 21, 2010 2-4 p.m. King County Chinook Building, 401 Fifth Ave., Ste 126 – Seattle**

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Wood at 2:00 p.m.

#### **Roll Call**

**Regional Human Services Levy Oversight Board (RHSLOB) Members Present:** Kathy Brasch (Co-Chair), Loran Lichty (Co-Chair) Kathleen Hadaller, Edith Nelson

**RHSLOB Members Excused/Absent:** Kevin Bernadt, Dorry Elias-Garcia

**Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Board (VCLOB) Members Present:** Bill Wood (Chair), Oren Hadaller, Doug Hoople, Roger Welles

**VCLOB Members Excused/Absent:** Ron Forest, Stan Gunno, Gary Kingsbury, Cynthia Lefever, Kathy Lewis, and. Francisco Ivarra (Vice-Chair), Robert Stephens, Jr.

**King County Staff Present:** Alan Painter, Executive Staff; Jackie MacLean, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Linda Peterson, DCHS; Debora Gay, DCHS, Marcy Kubbs, DCHS; Laird Heia, DCHS; Jon Hoskins, DCHS; David Ramsay; Anne Shields, Public Health-Seattle King County

**Guests:** Mike Schwartz, YWCA, Seattle, King, Snohomish; Amy Kickliter, Neighborhood House; Bob Falk, TRAC Associates; Jessica Witkowski, High Point Medical & Dental Clinic, Neighborcare Health; Lisa Kartiganer, Sea Mar Community Health Center, SeaMar Burien and South Park Clinics.

#### **Review of Meeting Summary**

The draft February 4, 2010 meeting summary was approved as written.

#### **Chairs Report – Chair Bill Wood (VCLOB)**

- Chair Wood reported that board members attended several meetings including an RPC hearing on the annual report which brings the total number of their volunteer hours to 1769.
- The board committees reviewed levy evaluation plans, templates and outcome reports for Strategies 1 – 5.
- The Interim Performance and Evaluation Report will be completed by August 31, 2010.
- Many thanks to the Levy Evaluation Unit for their outstanding work in this area.

**Chairs Report – Co-Chair Kathy Brasch (RHSLOB)**

- Co-chair Brasch reported board members Bill Wood (Chair of VCLOB) and Loran Lichty (Co-chair of RHSLOB) were part of a panel who presented current VHS Levy data to the RPC for the purpose of receiving approval of the 2009 Veterans and Human Services Levy Annual Report which was approved at a later meeting of the committee. The presentation highlighted the mobile medical van and the steps Loran took to support those needing services in his community.
- A presentation on evaluation will be presented at the September 8, 2010 RPC meeting, 3-5pm, 10<sup>th</sup> floor of the KC Courthouse.

**King County Strategic Planning Overview – Alan Painter, Human Services, Health and Housing Policy Advisor to King County Executive Dow Constantine**

Alan Painter provided an overview of the County-wide Strategic Plan, specifically, the direct linkage between the County-wide Strategic Plan and the work the levy boards are doing with the guidance of the Service Improvement Plan (SIP).

Levy Oversight Board members and staff are providing clear outcomes and accountability for the work being done, the services provided, and the dollars spent to the citizens of King County. The Strategic Plan will be used to evaluate all programs within King County in the future.

**Panel Discussion: Levy Services in the Community – Facilitated by Co-Chair Kathy Brasch**

The panel consisted of agencies providing services located in King County Council District 8.

Three agencies provide services under Activity 2.8 Employment linked to housing and supportive services. Mike Schwartz with the YWCA, Amy Kickliter with Neighborhood House and Bob Falk with TRAC Associates presented on their services under this activity.

Jessica Witkowski with Neighborcare Health High Point Clinic and Lisa Kartiganer, SeaMar Community Health Centers provided information on the programs they are involved with. These programs are levy funded through Activity 3.1 Increasing access to behavioral health services and Activity 4.2 Pilot services for maternal depression.

**Mike Schwartz, Employment Services Associate Director, YWCA, Seattle | King | Snohomish**

Mike directs a number of career development programs including Work Source Downtown Seattle, Basic Food Employment and Training, Community Jobs, the Homeless Intervention Program, and the King County Jobs Initiative for adults with low incomes. In addition, he manages the levy-funded Employment and Housing Stability program. He has recently been involved in starting up three new programs including the College Attainment Program, the GreenLight Project, and the Housing & Employment Navigator program, which expanded levy funded employment services.

Overall, the YWCA provides 900 units of housing and wraparound services including employment programs. The levy program funding allows the YWCA to work with those who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to provide assessment, case management and employer network information to link people to jobs.

With levy dollars 136 people were enrolled into long-term employment assistance; 68 people were provided resume counseling. Of these, 50% were homeless when they started and the other 50% were at risk. Year to date, 73 people are in unsubsidized employment and have a 75% success rate. A total of 61 people maintained their housing.

Discussion:

Q: How do you track job retention? A: We check in with our clients at three, six and nine months and offer services where needed.

**Amy Kickliter, Senior Manager, Employment & Adult Education Department, Neighborhood House**

Amy's work at Neighborhood House has focused on ensuring services for low-income job seekers in King County are relevant, accessible and in line with pathways for family self-sufficiency. They serve immigrant and refugee families in particular. Sixty-six languages are represented by their clients.

Currently, the wage of self-sufficiency is \$18/hr. Levy funding provides tuition assistance to individuals to attend area community colleges and vocational training through a program called "Foundations for Work". Of the 204 people enrolled in the program, 76 percent have Limited English Proficiency (LEP) and 90% are immigrants or refugees. The program has placed 102 people into community colleges and 39 into vocation training. None of this would have been possible without the funding provided by the VHS Levy.

Discussion:

Q: Where does the "wage of self-sufficiency" of \$18/hr come from? A: The Workforce Development Council. Their website includes a self-sufficiency calculator. (<http://www.seekingwdc.org/>)

Q: Where are your services provided? A: Everywhere but the eastside though we do link with Hopelink, an eastside agency.

**Bob Falk, TRAC Associates, Owner, Administrator, Contract Manager**

Bob, the administrator for TRAC Associates directly manages several employment and training contracts, including the KC Employment Linked to Housing funded by the Veterans and Human Services Levy. TRAC Associates provides employment services to a variety of individuals but receives the levy funding specifically to provide services to veterans.

A total of 83 individuals are currently enrolled in the program and 31 individuals have been placed in employment. Since the beginning of the project 53 individuals have been placed.

Discussion:

Q: What veterans do you see? A: We see many veterans from Desert Storm who are struggling with PTSD and TBI. Q: Are wait lists typical? A: Yes, there are wait lists at the Shoreline site, but Renton is recruiting veterans.

**Jessica Witkowski, Neighborcare Health High Point Clinic and Lisa Kartiganer, SeaMar Community Health Clinic.**

Jessica and Lisa both work in clinics that provide services under the **Mental Health Integration Program (MHIP)**. The program serves clients with medical, mental health, and substance abuse needs in health centers and other safety net primary care clinics. The Neighborcare Health High Point Medical Clinic and Sea Mar Community Health Centers Burien Clinic are both funded by Human Services Levy Strategy 3.1. Sea Mar is also funded by the Human Services Levy Strategy 4.2.

Neighborcare Health High Point Clinic current serves 49 vulnerable adults who have moderate to severe symptoms of depression or anxiety. SeaMar Community Health Center in Burien currently provides services to 56 mothers who have moderate to severe symptoms of depression or anxiety; 6 children whose mothers are in treatment who have cognitive, emotional and behavioral problems and 58 low income adults who have moderate to severe symptoms of depression or anxiety.

Bill Wood, VCLOB Chair, thanked the presenters for their great work. Board members were impressed to see the quality of individuals managing the programs that were discussed and to hear the outcomes of these programs. This data helps board members take the message of the value of levy-funded services forward to the citizens of the county.

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**New Business**

Linda Peterson reviewed the job description for the new VHS Levy position and provided copies for board members to share with individuals they feel might be interested and qualified.

**Petitions/Communications (Public Comment)**

There were no petitions or communications.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.